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14 EASTERN EUROPEAN INTELLIGENCER

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19 January 1968

Polish Youth Indifferent Regarding Vietnam

Jerzy Piorkowski, editor of Poland magazine, said Polish youth are largely indifferent to the war in Vietnam. Speaking privately with US Embassy officials in Warsaw, Piorkowski said the youth of his country were primarily concerned with internal and European problems rather than developments in the Far East.

The key factor regarding opinion of the US, according to Piorkowski, was that, until Vietnam, the US was the only world power which did not have "dirty hands." While anti-American propaganda on Vietnam is eroding the previously impeccable American image, the Kennedy legend is still a powerful philosophical force and President Johnson retains a share of it. Therefore, Piorkowski claimed, almost any American policy, including Vietnam, would have at least the tacit support of the Polish youth.

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COMMENT: Piorkowski reportedly enjoys good connections in the Polish communist party despite his liberal pro-Western views.

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Polish Politburo Member Going to Japan

Zenon Kliszko, Gomulka's right-hand man, is preparing to visit Japan, apparently to convince the Japanese Communist Party to participate in the Budapest consultative meeting.

He will be accompanied by his daughter, who probably will act as interpreter, the chief of the central committee's foreign department, Jozef Czeszak, and by ideologue Andrzej Werblan. The group is departing Poland on 21 January and will return on the 29th. They are flying on SAS via Anchorage, Alaska.

Kliszko had requested a Japanese visa in 1967 to attend the Japanese party congress but had been turned down along with other East European Communists. Kliszko, however, visited Hanoi and Peking last June, and might take a quick swing in that direction again.

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New Polish Ambassador to Rumania

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Jaromir Ochęduszek was appointed on 17 January.

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COMMENT: He replaces Wieslaw Sobierajski, who left Bucharest in October. Ocheduszko is a career diplomat and this is his first ambassadorial post. At present he is a member of the Polish delegation to the United Nations, and a deputy chief of the Foreign Ministry's Western European department. He has made a good impression as an able diplomat and a fine person during his service in Turkey and France. He is said to have been a member of the pre-war Polish Socialist Party. [REDACTED]

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Hungarian Cultural Delegation Visits USSR

A Hungarian delegation led by CC secretary Gyorgy Aczel visited the USSR from 3 January through 15 January. The delegation which was made up of cultural affairs specialists held talks with CPSU central committee secretary Demichev and "other competent leaders of the CPSU" [REDACTED]

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COMMENT: The inclusion in the Hungarian delegation of Ferenc Ratkai, department chief in charge of literary affairs at the Ministry of Culture, indicates that at least one topic of discussion was the new agreement between the USSR and Hungary which provides bilateral copyright protection for authors.

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